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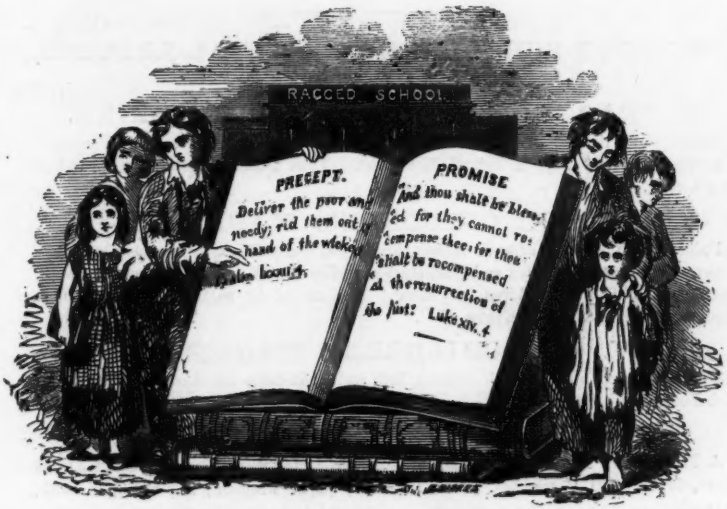
THE

RAGGED SCHOOL UNION

MAGAZINE.

No. CLXXIV. JUNE, 1863. VOL. XV.



"The word of the Lord endureth for ever."—1 Peter i. 25.

PROFITS DEVOTED TO RAGGED SCHOOLS.

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* Orders for Advertisements to be sent to Robert K. Burt, Printer, Holborn Hill.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.—The thanks of the Committee are presented to Joseph Payne, Esq., for a parcel of Hymn Books; Miss Crooke for a parcel of shirts; Mrs. Reade for a parcel of clothing and four parcels of Reward Books; Miss Lingwood for a box of clothing and a parcel for Cripples' Home; Miss Bodkin for a parcel of clothing for Lamb and Flag Schools; Mrs. Ditmas for a box of clothing; and Mr. Riddell for a bundle of clothing.

We are requested by the Committee of the North Street, Cudworth, Ragged Schools thankfully to acknowledge the receipt of £11 5s. from Mrs. Taylor and Miss Spackman, from friends at Bradford, Melksham, and Holt.

Donations of old clothes, and books for forming Ragged School libraries, will be thankfully received by the Secretary, Mr. JOSEPH G. GENT, 1, Exeter Hall, Strand, W.C.

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TOPICS SELECTED FROM THE CONTENTS OF "THE COTTAGER" during the past six months:—The Cottage at the Firs—"Here Goes"—James Small and the Plough—Aaron Bond—Idle Jenny—Chart and the Compass—Green Old Age—Who ought to Know Best?—How the Village Shop came to be Shut—Across the Sea—What a Child may Do—Alone in the World—Oberlin and the Market Woman—My Mate and I—Jem Radford's Thorn—The Shepherd in France—The Brackens—"I will be a Sailor"—Busy Stephen—"Try that"—How Mrs. Jones was Stopped on her Way Home—Bible Truths, for each Sunday—What Kills Care—&c., &c. ONE PENNY, monthly.

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W. J. WATTS, Hon. Secretary to the Schools.

The Committee will be pleased to receive Donations in money, or articles of every description, which can be sent to the Hon. Secretary, W. J. WATTS, 7, Birchmore Terrace, Cardington Street, Hampstead Road, N.W., or at the Schools.

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The Committee, after long and anxious seeking, have obtained a freehold site, with ample space for new and suitable buildings, close to the old premises. One large room has been erected, and the means are now sought to complete their plans.

About £2,000 will be required, and to raise this amount the co-operation of the many friends of Ragged Schools and Missions is earnestly solicited. Donations towards this object will be thankfully received by the Treasurer, B. Smith, Esq., 21, Highbury Crescent.

Suitable contributions for the Bazaar, of Fancy Work, Articles of Vertu, &c., are respectfully requested, and may be forwarded before the 6th June to Mrs. Allon, 10, St. Mary's Road, Canonbury, President; Mrs. J. W. Willans, 32, St. Mary's Road, or Miss Spicer, 22, Highbury Crescent, Hon. Secretaries.

Tickets may be obtained of any of the Committee, or at the Offices of the Ragged School Union, Exeter Hall.

Admittance, 1s., children, 6d.; Pass Tickets for three days, 2s. Entrance Fee on the first day, 1s. 6d., for those not previously provided with Tickets.

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On WEDNESDAY EVENING, JUNE 10th, 1863.

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FUNDS ARE MUCH NEEDED.

The operations comprise Day, Evening, and Sunday Schools, Mothers' Meeting, Ragged Church, Band of Hope, Lending Library, a Clothing Fund, a Penny Bank, and the Fathers' Home, known as the Westminster Working Men's Club and Reading Room, in Duck Lane, with its separate efforts of Educational and Bible Classes, Penny Bank, Loan Society, Barrow Club, Temperance and Sick Societies, &c.

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The Committee are in great need of funds, and they fear that unless immediate help is afforded they must discontinue this work, which was begun twelve years since. During that period more than two hundred girls have been admitted, to very many of whom the privileges of and instructions received at this Home have been eminently blessed. Will any one respond to this appeal, and assist the Committee in their present emergency?

The smallest contributions will be most thankfully received by WM. J. MAXWELL, Esq., Richmond, Surrey, S.W.; Miss GOWAN, 20, Park Crescent, N.W.; Sir SAMUEL SCOTT, Bart., & Co., Bankers, 1, Cavendish Square; or Mr. J. G. GENT, Secretary, Ragged School Union, Exeter Hall.

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References are kindly permitted to be made to the Secretaries of the Ragged School Union and the Temperance League.

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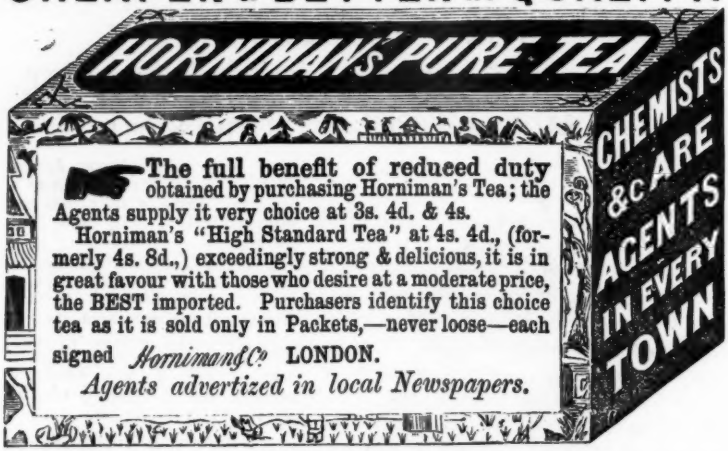
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Probably every reader has seen that very excellent work, "Haste to the Rescue," in which many cases of real usefulness are recorded, and among others a family of the name of Steadman, where both parents died. The daughter's case was taken up by this Institution last summer, when she was placed in great danger, and, after a time, was assisted to emigrate to Australia, from whence the following letter was received a few days ago:—

"March, 1863.

"DEAR SIR,

"I now take up my pen to write these few lines to you, hoping that you are quite well. I am very sorry that I could not get to write to you before. Dear Sir, I have very much to thank you for, and I shall never forget the kindness I received from you. I have got a very good place. It is no use out here if you can't stir yourself: we have to work hard out here, because it is so hot; the sun shines always here. I was taken off the ship as soon as we was at land. We had a good voyage, but it was stormy some part of it. The Lord was good to me in saving me from sin; and I hope he will keep me still in the right way, for he has said he will keep them that put their trust in him, and then when death comes I shall not be afraid to meet him. I hope if we do not meet again on this earth, we shall meet in heaven, where all is love.

"I am, your humble Servant,
"E. S."

Subscriptions and donations in aid of this Institution will be thankfully received by

Messrs. BOSANQUET & Co., Bankers, 73, Lombard Street, E.C.
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Mr. E. W. THOMAS, Secretary, 200, Euston Road, Euston Square, N.W.

Remittances always acknowledged by return of post.

Papers, Original and Selected.

THE RAG-COLLECTING BRIGADE.

THE Ragged School movement evinces its healthy condition by its steady progress. Seven years from its formation (dating from the establishment of the Ragged School Union) it threw out its first vigorous offshoot, *the Shoe-black Brigade*, with the memorable opening of the first Exhibition of 1851. Ten years of patient, quiet effort have produced marvellous results: the few lads then introducing as a novelty in our streets the box and brushes, and earning a few pence from foreign visitors, was but a dim foreshadowing of the 373 trained lads now employed, whose united earnings this year amount to £6,222. They created a want with which our *understandings* could now with difficulty dispense.

The success of this movement has fostered another, and with the second Exhibition of 1862 our Ragged Schools put forth *the Rag-collecting Brigade*. Its necessity was suggested by the evidence given before a Select Parliamentary Committee in 1861, when it was stated "that not more than four-tenths of the rags of this country were preserved; and that if the remaining six-tenths could be returned to be re-manufactured, there would be no necessity to go to foreign markets for some twenty-five per cent. of the rags now required for the paper manufacture of England." And if this is true of so comparatively a valuable commodity as rags, must it not be also true to a much greater extent of less valuable but still most important articles in our commercial economy, such as waste paper, grease, bones, broken glass, rope, carpet, &c.? For instance, what becomes of the envelopes of the million letters passing daily through our "London Post-office," all which are worth preserving, for they will fetch from 2s. to 3s. per cwt.? Waste must be made to a greater or less extent in every household, and if not preserved argues either ignorance of its value in a national (and even in a private) sense, most detrimental to social interests, or want of confidence in the existing means for its disposal, *i.e.*, by aid of the marine store-shops. Now, this latter cause the Committee believe to be the real cause of waste, the value of which may be estimated at millions; a waste which many families would rather allow than their domestics should visit these shops: nay, with many respectable

servants the dislike of them is equally great, cases having been known where domestic servants regularly buried fat, bones, and rags given them by their mistresses rather than be seen going into such shops: besides, if the whole of the marine store-shops of England can only gather *four-tenths* of the most valuable refuse (rags), surely there is ample room for our agency, which, by drawing public attention to these important facts, simply asks to be allowed to collect and pay a fair price for the remaining *six-tenths now wasted:* and further, it should be borne in mind that to collect this waste material we are employing what might be termed waste labour, taking a class of lads from our Ragged Schools mostly friendless and unemployed, precisely the class from which our criminal population is almost entirely recruited. These being the facts, it was assumed that this waste on the one hand, and the difficulty of getting employment for this class of boys on the other, would fairly allow the experiment to be tried, and the Committee in their nine months' trading to December, 1862, acknowledge with deep thankfulness to God that the success has equalled their expectation. Before commencing the movement, the officers of the London Ragged Schools were called together, and at a meeting of 110 gentlemen the following resolution, moved by John McGregor, Esq., of the Red Shoe-black Brigade, and seconded by Mr. J. G. Gent, Secretary of the Ragged School Union, was unanimously carried:—

> "That this meeting having heard the general scheme of operations proposed to be carried out by the Committee of the Rag-collecting Brigade, cordially approves of it as practical and likely to be beneficial to the Ragged School work, and accordingly recommend it with confidence to the schools connected with the Union."

A great difficulty was the finding of suitable premises within a radius that would allow constant supervision. These were after some time obtained in Albion Place, London Wall, at a rent of £77 per annum, and fitted up at a considerable expense. The Committee consider themselves fortunate in having been able to secure the services of a young man as manager who, himself brought up in the Sermon Lane Ragged School, had not only some knowledge of the class of boys with whom he had to deal, but a practical knowledge of the business itself, and they are pleased to add he has fully justified their choice.

At the commencement (and, indeed, to the present time with but three exceptions) it was found necessary to send adults in charge of the trucks, the boys having to learn their work. These agents (all connected with Ragged Schools) have been found willing, active helpers, interested in the work for its own sake.

On the 21st of March business was commenced, the first truck load being from Sir George Smart's, by his especial request.

The plan of operation is that to each truck is assigned a district, the

bounds of which are not to be passed except in special cases. Before commencing perambulation, bills announcing the aims and objects of the Brigade are distributed from house to house. The boys assemble at seven in the morning after breakfast (which, with tea, is provided at cost price, in order to ensure regular meals and wholesome food), family prayers are conducted by the Superintendent, and then each truck, attended by the collector and two assistants, starts on their rounds. The collector makes all purchases, and is responsible for the cash entrusted to him. To be a collector, a boy must be a fair reader and writer, his wages varying from 7s. 6d. to 10s. 6d. per week, according to efficiency; but he cannot be appointed to his post till he has 20s. in the Brigade Bank, as a guarantee for his honesty. The assistants, who act under his control, get from 6s. to 7s. per week. If their rounds lie near the depôt they make two or even three loads in the day, but in most instances it is four or five o'clock before they reach home with the first load. The collector is furnished with a tariff of prices as a guarantee of good faith between buyer and seller, and a receipt book, leaving a receipt for all goods purchased, and obtaining a signature on the counterpart for cash paid to the vendor, so that nothing may be surreptitiously bought or sold, and should there be a suspicion of dishonesty, each transaction can be easily traced and checked. The system will take time to develop: at first the boys met many repulses, their mission was unknown and distrusted, but it was not long before they obtained a footing, and now their orderly behaviour, just measure, and fair prices, make them welcome wherever they are known. The districts most worked have been Islington, Barnsbury, Canonbury, Highbury, Kingsland, Brompton, Camberwell, and Walworth.

The boys generally have entered heartily into the work. Three of the trucks are now managed entirely by themselves, dispensing with the adult superintendent, and on the whole do quite as well, if not better, more sympathy being shown them.

The corduroy uniforms at first chosen have been found to be too heavy and too hot, and have been replaced by a blouse of blue serge, bound with red to match the trucks, which is cooler, cheaper, brighter, and washable. A day in each summer month is set apart as a general holiday; on three of such occasions annually, the Committee pay for an excursion a few miles into the country, as an additional incentive to industry. A Bible Class is held weekly, and also a class for helping the most backward in reading and writing; the boys being also encouraged to attend regularly the Evening Classes in connection with their own Ragged School. The great majority of the boys employed are of a class who would find it extremely difficult to find employment elsewhere.

The first boy engaged was the youngest of three brothers, two

of whom had been transported, and he seemed in a fair way of following their footsteps; but taken into our employment (through the means of the Nichol Street Ragged School), when all other seemed shut against him, he conducted himself so well that he attracted the notice of a gentleman, who took him into his warehouse, where he bids fair to do well. The employment compels great activity, which, with constant supervision, really becomes a valuable training; so much so that many applications have been made for boys who could be recommended, and in nine months ten have been placed in better positions; and this number might have been considerably increased could the Brigade have afforded to part with more from so limited a number. But this will show that a helping hand to place them out in the world is everything to this class of lads. There is plenty of demand for their labour if their antecedents are approved, and in this way the Committee hope to effect much good.

The number of boys employed up to Christmas last was twenty-two; they, with assistants and sorters, received £424 in wages. The average amount expended daily by each truck was 13s. 9d., and the number of separate transactions 9,000, giving an average of about ten per truck daily.

The materials collected are of a most heterogeneous character, cocked hats, hearse trappings, old aquariums, and in one bag 1,000,000 postage stamps, in fact, anything that can be got into or on the top of the truck. In one lot of rubbish a Bank of England cheque book (which was at once forwarded to the Bank); in another half a dozen pair of new stockings, the latter in some refuse from a draper's shop, which were duly returned, much to the owner's astonishment.

The total collection of the four trucks in the nine months is as follows:—

Bottles				49,818
	Tons.	Cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
Paper	38	19	1	15
Rags, mixed	9	18	2	22
„ white	2	16	0	8
„ dirty	0	16	3	3
Bones	8	6	0	7
Carpet	3	7	2	7
Cullet	0	11	3	22
Cloth	4	19	0	2
Fat, &c.	5	4	3	2
Metals	5	17	1	24
Rope	1	2	1	27
	82	0	3	27

Besides some £70 worth of stuff not bought by weight. Of this vast quantity, the Committee have good reason to believe MORE THAN ONE-HALF WOULD HAVE NEVER FOUND ITS WAY INTO THE MARKET AT ALL, EXCEPT FOR THE FACILITIES OFFERED BY OUR BRIGADE.

At first a good deal of clothing was brought in, which was sorted and disposed of to the Ragged Schools, to be mended by the sewing classes, and sold at cheap rates to the necessitous poor. But the universal collection for the Lancashire sufferers most effectually stopped the supplies, and for some five months hardly a single article has been received. It is most fervently hoped, for the sake of Lancashire and the Jews, as well as ourselves, old clothes may soon become more plentiful.

There are now seven trucks (and another preparing), with some thirty-four boys at work. The original programme was to have started with ten trucks, but this even, had the funds admitted it, would have been too much for the capability of the premises and the power of the very limited staff. Now the work is familiar, and truck after truck can be added to advantage. Experience has shown that each truck requires a floating capital of £50. The weekly purchases per truck now average £5, and it is some eight or ten weeks before the stuff is sorted, sold, and paid for.

The trade balance sheet shows that a *gross* profit of some £240 has been made, a most encouraging result, although it is considerably more than swallowed up in the heavy sums paid in rent, manager's salary, and wages of experienced sorters to instruct the boys, &c., none of which expenses would have been increased had the number of trucks been *ten instead of four*, and in that case there would have probably been a considerable surplus. The Committee are pleased to report that since the 1st of January this year the results are even more satisfactory, and they have reason to believe they are now paying expenses, and this with three trucks less than they estimated would do so. Of course there have been very heavy items in fitting up premises, cost of trucks, printing and advertising, &c., but this has been very nearly met by the liberality of the public, the general balance sheet showing a balance against the Brigade of but £77 to Christmas last.

But the Committee have no means of increasing their capabilities, and even the new truck now ready cannot be put to work without more funds. Some £250 is required to place the *first* depôt on what they hope a permanent, self-sustaining footing, and upon the further experience gained by the results of its twelve months' working with the ten trucks will depend future action.

There are indications that the public are disposed to favour the movement, and trade instincts are alive. Manufacturers from different localities, the north of England especially, have visited the depôt, and corresponded with it. Inquiries have been made from Dublin, Manches-

ter, and other large towns, as to its success, with a view of similar efforts. The late City Police Commissioner wrote spontaneously and promised all the aid his force could give. The Metropolitan Commissioner, Sir Richard Mayne, addressed some kind words to the lads in the streets, when questioning them as to its success, accompanying them with some *earnest* wishes respecting marine store-shops. The Right Hon. Mr. Cowper, First Commissioner of Works, wished to place one of the trucks in the parks, to collect the waste paper, but there was some difficulty as to the funds from which the boys could be paid, as the refuse collected would have been very unremunerative. Had the success of the Brigade been more thoroughly established, the Committee might have met the difficulty by sinking the wages for the honour of co-operating with her Majesty's Government *in keeping the parks clean.*

Many valuable suggestions have been made, and new fields of labour pointed out. That of the waste from the river shipping, a very important item, now largely thrown overboard; the possibility of enough broken victuals being gathered into open soup kitchens in connection with our Ragged Schools in very severe weather. And amongst other ideas, if the Brigade becomes universal throughout the metropolis, is the delivery by its means of small parcels, &c., which would be a source of considerable profit.

The Committee feel that great possibilities are before them; in fact, with funds, there is hardly any bounds to their extent. It is calculated that each 600 houses, containing some 4,500 persons, would more than amply sustain one truck, leaving a very wide margin. At this rate it would need just 640 trucks to compass London alone, and if, as they hope to be able to show, an actual surplus in this year's transactions, there is nothing to prevent the self-extension of the movement, facilitated as the liberality of the public will allow. The first nine months show no inconsiderable trading success; the experience paid for is invaluable, so that the Committee confidently ask support for what is most emphatically—by the collection of waste material by what might become worse than waste labour, making both valuable, and thus increasing the national resources—A GREAT NATIONAL GOOD.

THE RAG-COLLECTING BRIGADE held its first annual meeting at Radley's Hotel, on Friday, May 22nd, 1863. The Right Hon. the Earl of Shaftesbury, K.G., presided, on which occasion two gold pencil-cases were presented, one to the Treasurer, the other to the Hon. Secretary, by the Chairman, on behalf of the boys of the Brigade, as an expression of gratitude for the aid and kindness they had received from those officers. The Report was read, and the meeting addressed by the Hon. A. Kinnaird, M.P., Charles Reed, Esq., deputy, W. J. Maxwell, — Williams, Esq., and other gentlemen. During the evening good conduct rewards were given to six of the youths engaged in collecting rags.

THE NINETEENTH ANNIVERSARY

OF

THE RAGGED SCHOOL UNION.

ABSTRACT OF THE REPORT.

It is a great pleasure to meet so many kind and zealous friends year after year, and to tell of the wonders wrought out for them by a gracious God through such weak instrumentality; for of all pleasures awarded to man by a beneficent Creator, those are the most enduring and agreeable which have for their end the good of man and the glory of God; and such are afforded to all engaged in the work of Ragged Schools. To seek out and save those that are lost, to bring sinners to the feet of Jesus, to gather wandering sheep home to the fold of Christ, to instruct the ignorant, to reform the vicious, to cheer the lonely, to help the friendless; surely these are works of mercy and love, Christlike works, that must give to all engaged in them real and lasting delight. And yet this pleasure is not altogether without alloy, something to keep us humble, and to tell us we are in a world of trial, of imperfection, of sin, and of misery.

At a Conference lately held of old friends a report was read of a deeply interesting character, which showed most clearly that in nine districts, in which were 13,800 children from three to twelve years of age, 5,500 do not attend any school whatever, not even a Sunday School. Applying this to other similar districts, it is clear to all who carefully go into the subject, that there are at least 25,000 such neglected boys and girls still attending no school whatever, though some may occasionally get inside a school, only to leave it again and idle about the streets, and do all kinds of mischief, uncared for and untaught. These are they who grow in what are now called the crime-gardens of London, and become a most dangerous and expensive class of our population.

This is a solemn fact, and one well worthy the consideration of every man in this Christian realm of England who has the welfare of his country at heart. It deserves and demands the most serious consideration. It will be again referred to before this Report closes, and therefore, without enlarging on it in this place, the Committee proceed to give some particulars of their operations during the year.

And first as to number of schools and children:—

The number of Sunday Schools is now 180, with scholars in attendance averaging	23,360
The number of Day Schools 199, and scholars	17,970
The Week-day Schools 205, and scholars	8,320
This gives a total of scholars	49,650

But as many week-day scholars attend on Sunday, the Committee take one-

half of the above total as the probable number who thus enjoy the benefits of their schools; that is to say, 26,000—nearly the same number as last year.

THE INDUSTRIAL SCHOLARS now number 2,850. THE VOLUNTARY TEACHERS, 2,700. THE PAID TEACHERS, 360. THE PAID MONITORS, 460.

The number attending Parents' Meetings is on the increase, more men being induced to come than formerly. The average attendance is now 3,117. This is independent of the Ragged Church Services, conducted mostly by City Missionaries, which now secure an attendance of 5,460 persons.

There are now 26 Bands of Hope, with 4,200 members; and the number of School Libraries has increased to 66, with above 10,000 volumes.

The number sent to situations in this year is still large, though not easily ascertainable. Many facts go to show that a large proportion of them keep their places and do well. The number rewarded every year for keeping in their places is some evidence of this; though that number is kept down by the stringency of the regulations in regard to Prizes, as to age, continuance in one place, and especially by attendance at the Sunday School being insisted on. Such saved ones may be regarded by political economists as so much working power produced by Ragged Schools, and year by year handed over to the State for its lasting benefit.

THE SHOE-BLACK SOCIETIES

continue to prosper. They are now eight in number, comprising 372 lads, whose united earnings for the year lately ended amounted to no less than £6,222.

THE REFUGES

which take in children from Ragged Schools continue to be very useful to the Union; but some are very badly off for want of funds, and the Committee cannot help them beyond the capitation grant, their own funds being at present very circumscribed.

THE SUMMER TREATS

to the children have been given to some extent, though, perhaps, not so extensively as in former years. Many have been given by wealthy friends at their own country seats. In addition to these the Committee have returns from about thirty schools, which managed, from funds raised for the express purpose, to give a day's holiday in the open-air to above 12,000 of the children. In addition to these a special fund was raised, through the kindness of Lord Shaftesbury, to give a treat to those schools who could not raise money themselves for such a purpose; and in this way about 1,400 were so treated at Petersham Park, in September last. These recreations afford heartfelt delight not only to the young, but to the old—the friends and teachers who, as guides, accompany their scholars on such fête days.

The Committee are thankful to see that

MEETINGS FOR MOTHERS AND FATHERS

are more numerous. Strenuous efforts have been made in some localities to get fathers to meet together by means of reading-rooms, where coffee and other

refreshments (omitting beer and spirits) can be had; and success has, in some cases, attended such efforts. The Committee would rejoice to see a Workman's Hall or Club in every Ragged School district in London; and they are quite sure it would tend to increase morality, sobriety, and good feeling among all classes, and very much promote and secure regular attendance of children at school.

THE PENNY BANKS

and Clothing Clubs have increased since last year. The former are now 88 in number, with about 30,000 depositors. The balance remaining in hand at Christmas was £1,510. The Clothing Clubs number 63. The amount gathered was £899, spent in useful articles in the year.

THE FINANCES

of the Union are reduced. In a year of trial and much distress, war in America and poverty in Lancashire, every religious and philanthropic society has felt its means reduced. The International Exhibition also tended to absorb people's thoughts, and to draw away money from missionary objects. It was to be expected that the Ragged School Union would also suffer; and accordingly the donations, and also the legacies, are considerably less than usual. This tends to cramp the efforts of your Committee sadly. Taking this hindrance in connection with what has been stated above, in regard to the vast work that still remains to be done, and the thousands of poor neglected children still in the streets, the Committee are much perplexed. They need the sympathy, co-operation, and support of all their friends, and of all the Christian men and women of England that can be influenced to help them forward in their efforts. If the work is to go forward as it ought, large funds will also be needed; and that such may be forthcoming some new action must be taken, information disseminated, and fresh appeals issued. When the Committee have done this they have done their part, and can do no more. The Christians of England must do the rest.

At the Conference lately held it was resolved, that the members of every church and chapel in London and its suburbs, should be appealed to, that they might statedly, and from time to time, bring the subject of Ragged Schools, and the neglected thousands now in our streets, before their people, in order to get funds and more voluntary agency, or to carry on at least one Ragged School for the poor by the efforts of their own congregation.

The Earl of Shaftesbury on that occasion made a powerful appeal; and with his words the Committee will conclude this Report. He said,—

"Let every one of your Committees meet and consider in what way they can make a direct and personal appeal to every human being living in their district. Try if you cannot get them to come every Sunday, to come on alternate Sundays, or on parts of Sundays. Go from house to house, from shop to shop; use all the arguments you can command; appeal to the results which have taken place; point out the results which you anticipate in the future; urge upon them the imperative necessity of their assistance in the crying exigency of the case; and show that to labour in such a cause will be a fruitful source of blessing to themselves, as well as to the children they seek to instruct. And I do hope and trust, that however true our Lord's words may be in reference to many of the great efforts of Christian enterprise, it will never again be said of the Ragged School cause, 'The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few.'"

PROCEEDINGS OF THE NINETEENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RAGGED SCHOOL UNION,

Held in Exeter Hall, on Monday Evening, May 11th, 1863.

RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF SHAFTESBURY, K.G., IN THE CHAIR.

THE Nineteenth Annual Meeting of the Union was held in Exeter Hall, on Monday evening, the 11th of May, the President, the Right Hon. the Earl of Shaftesbury, K.G., in the chair. On the platform were the Bishop of Goulburn, Sir R. W. Carden, W. H. Bodkin, Esq., J. Payne, Esq., Rev. W. Cadman, Rev. J. Richardson, Rev. Dr. Allen, Rev. Dr. Weir, Rev. F. Tucker, Rev. A. Mursell, Rev. B. Field, Rev. C. D. Marston, Rev. W. W. Robinson, A. Haldane, Esq., G. Oliphant-Ferguson, Esq., Major Straith, E. Jennings, Esq., H. Fordham, Esq., R. J. Snape, Esq., F. S. Clayton, Esq., and J. R. Fowler, Esq. The large hall was, as usual, crowded in every part.

The proceedings were commenced by singing the hymn, "All hail the power of Jesu's name."

The Rev. W. CADMAN engaged in prayer.

The Honorary Secretary, Mr. W. LOCKE, read the Annual Report.

The Secretary, Mr. J. G. GENT, then read the Annual Balance Sheet.

The CHAIRMAN.—My good friends,—It is a very great mercy, after so long a period of difficulty and trial, after operations carried on upon so large a surface and over so great numbers, that we should have, at our nineteenth anniversary, to record little but success. Now, when I am asked, as I used to be, Where is the good that has been done?—and that question is put now but once in a hundred times, compared with what it used to be—the facts are so patent, and the results so manifest, and the records so true, that the question may be set aside and met by another, and I say to these inquirers, "Where is the mischief?" And then they begin to hum and to haw, and to evade and shuffle, and to turn this way and that; and they end by being totally silent, which, as the ladies know very well, in most instances gives consent. Ay, and it is a very great mercy that so many of those who were permitted by God to be present at the commencement of these operations should still be alive, to see the wonderful issue of all their efforts, and the signal manner in which God has blessed them. It is, I say, a great blessing that our old friends Locke, and Gent, and the Counsellor Payne, and many whom I might enumerate, and among the rest your humble servant, who has the honour of addressing you, should still be alive, and I trust in full vigour, to do some good work in the service of this blessed cause. All that we can say is, humbly, heartily, and devoutly, "Not unto us, O Lord, but unto thy name be all the glory." Now this Report contains very admirable matter; and all the facts that you have heard at various times go sufficiently to prove our case. But we have something more to do on the present occasion. There is an indication of a little want, and to that want we must address our attention at the present time. I want not only to *maintain the present system*, but I want very greatly to extend it. We will talk of the extension presently: let us talk at the present moment of how we shall maintain it. Why, there is yet, even in the districts where the schools are existing, much land to be won. We have lots of sheep, but we have not a sufficiency of shepherds. We know the number of our sheep, but we do not

know the number of those who should feed them. I remember a great friend of mine on the Continent, a man of mighty wealth, when I asked him the number of his sheep, said, "I really do not know, but I know I have fifteen hundred shepherds." Now, we can tell you to a fraction how many sheep we have; but I am sorry to say we cannot tell you how many teachers we have. There is a defect, I regret to say it, of voluntary teachers. I spoke of that last year, and I speak of it again now. I am not going to specify this year, as I did last year, and for this reason: because it brought upon me such a host of letters, and such a tide of remonstrances, every one saying, "It isn't I," and "It isn't I," and "It isn't I." I do not say that it *is* I, or that it *is* I; I say that it is *we;* and I do not say it is *thou*, and *thou*, but I say it is *you*, and all of you; and having said that, you must divide and settle the responsibility among yourselves. But I am astonished that there should be any hesitation among those to whom God has given ample time and leisure in coming forward to this great and glorious work. Why, merely look at the issues of your operations. Remember that this vast, seething mass of children would have been a seed-plot of evil, when now it is a seed-plot of good. So far from being dismayed and terrified, when I see these hundreds and thousands of wretched creatures wandering about uncared for and untaught, I am not dismayed, because I know the mode in which we may deal with them; I know how they may be approached, I know how they may be handled, and I know the issue that will result from such operations as those. I see nothing but a want of zeal, nothing but a want of a due appreciation of the necessity; I see nothing but a want of a due estimate of the duty that devolves upon us—that prevents the whole of this great metropolis being covered with those noble citadels of virtue and of piety, the Ragged Schools belonging to our Ragged School Union. Why, look what has sprung of them. Have you not heard in the Report what has sprung out of them by the great inventive and Christian genius of those men who devised it? First, take the shoe-blacks: was there ever a greater triumph of order, and decency, and Christianity, and truth, and feeling, over everything that was anarchial, indecent, unprincipled, and disorderly, than to see nearly 400 of those lads, dragged from the very depths of degradation, filth, and misery, and brought into a condition to earn their own livelihood, to be a credit to the metropolis, and to attract the attention and admiration of all the passers-by, and of all who study their private and individual history? Why, look what you have heard to-day about the new effort that is being made in the formation of what is called the Rag Brigade, which, if it be supported and fostered as it ought to be, will give maintenance and occupation not to three hundred, but to four hundred, five hundred, I dare say a thousand, of these ragged and destitute boys, who are growing up for nothing but mischief and lawlessness. Observe what has been the issue of all your operations; observe how God blesses your efforts; when you appear to be encumbered by the number of children you have taught, and don't know how to devise plans for obtaining situations for them, see how, time after time, God puts it into the hearts and minds of men to strike out some new course and some new career in which these children may walk, an honour and a comfort to themselves, and a support and a dignity to their country. Ay, and I may recall to you again, as I ever will from this platform, the numbers that year by year pass in review before us, to receive prizes as the results of good conduct in having retained their situations during the past twelve months. Why, what a triumph is that! What other country, what other school, could present such a spectacle? What other society has ever attempted, and having attempted has ever produced, such results over such a hopeless, as it appeared to be, such an unapproachable mass of children? children who were thought to

be utterly beyond the reach of all effort; children of whom it was thought that they must be consigned to the miserable destiny that was offered to them, that they must be passed by almost without a regret, certainly without an effort, because they were among a condemned class, fit only to be the hewers of wood and the drawers of water to the more happy and the more comfortable in this world's condition. Ay, and you have given to these children a sure foundation of sound Gospel truth; you have given them that knowledge which hundreds of thousands in a better position have not yet attained to; you have given them that knowledge which is not to be found even in dignitaries of the Church of a certain character. And I was delighted the other day from a clergyman telling me what had occurred in his own school. There came down to him a dignitary, an official person, for the purpose of examining the children; because this clergyman, I am sorry to say, had been weak enough to take a grant from her Majesty's Government, and therefore he was exposed to the invasion of these official gentlemen. But this official gentleman, not having very strong sympathies with that course of education which is administered in these schools, said with a taunting air before all the children, "Oh, talk to them about Scriptures and texts! I should like to ask them if they could tell me a text with the word 'if' in it;" when up sprung a little child and said, "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature." For myself I should say, I would rather have been rebuked by the Speaker of the House of Commons; I would rather have been called to order by the Lord Chief Justice; I would rather have submitted to any penalty, than have been brought to order upon Gospel truth by a little child out of a Ragged School. But now, as a matter of business, before I turn to the second part of the Report, I will just mention what has been suggested to me; and it is a matter of very great importance to you, teachers, and others who have to go into the various localities, and who are mixed up with these poor children, who come from the most pestilential quarters of the metropolis. I have been asked to suggest, and I do it upon consideration, as being a very wise proceeding, that the whole mass of the teachers should do as I have done myself within the last ten days, take care to be properly vaccinated. I believe you will find it a great safeguard, and you will enter on your duties with much more security and much more comfort: it will be an advantage to you, and it will be an advantage to the children. But now, do look at what the Report tells you: that *there is a vast amount of land yet to be occupied.* It tells you that there are some five-and-twenty thousand children, a number equal to those we have already under tuition, who are yet to be brought within the fold of Christ, who are yet to be brought under the superintendence of the Ragged School Union. Is it not a scandal, that when we know how great have been the results, when we know how great is the necessity, when we know how piercing is the evil, when we know what is the remedy to be applied to that evil, we should sit still, and be content with the work that we have achieved? I am not speaking to those who have done their best in the various localities to which they belong, whether it be by contribution, or whether it be by teaching; but I am speaking to this meeting, and through this meeting to the whole wealth, and character, and principle of England; and I ask them whether, when they know the fact now, as the result of research and inquiry, that there are full five-and-twenty thousand children who might be brought to the same condition as the five-and-twenty thousand that are now under their care, they will hesitate for one moment to come forward and do all that in them lies to accomplish so mighty and so blessed a consummation. Why, how is it possible to hesitate, when we see all the results that have been achieved? Go to the police-offices, and hear what they tell

you of the order and the decency that prevail, compared with the state of things some years ago, in the neighbourhood of a Ragged School. Go and listen to the magistrates from the bench at the various offices, and they will tell you what effect has already been produced upon juvenile delinquency. Walk over the length and breadth of London, and see the effect produced by the Ragged School Union. I say not by that alone; for I must ever speak of all the other efforts that are made conjointly with our own efforts. But see the effect produced by the Ragged School Union upon the general tone and temper of society, and tell me what other means could have produced the results that we now see. In how many instances would you meet with affront, or with opposition, in perambulating the streets, in penetrating the courts, or in diving into the recesses of the alleys of London? Is it not known that a few years ago it was unsafe? And yet I venture to say, that with the exception of a few lawless persons, who are out to seek their prey on all occasions, you may go to all parts of this metropolis, by day or by night, attended or unattended, male or female, and if it be seen upon what purpose you are going, I will venture to say you will walk as securely through those streets and those alleys as you will walk in your own house. Are these achievements nothing? achievements arrived at by so simple a process, by merely bringing ardent, zealous, right-minded persons to operate upon these hitherto neglected classes. Is it not a proof of the great principles of Christianity? Is it not the greatest and the most unanswerable triumph of the Gospel? And it is in your power, from the highest to the lowest. There is not a person, however mean and insignificant he or she may be in the scale of this world's society, who has not in his or her power at this moment a greater means of producing a permanent and a full influence, an influence beneficial for the present time, an influence beneficial for the time to come, than belonged to persons of more talent, of higher station, and of greater wealth, fifty or sixty years ago. Such is the condition of things that arises from the ripeness of men's minds to receive the truth. Such is the condition that arises from the attitude of tens and hundreds of thousands of the working classes. Never was there a time in the history of this country when the working classes of England were so accessible as they are now. Never was there a time when they would so listen to the word of advice. Never was there a time when they would so listen to the word of truth. Never was there a time when they were so ready to listen to the words of the Gospel, many to receive it, and almost all to listen to it with reverence and attention. Why, this is a condition of things our forefathers never knew. This is a condition of things that we *do* know. This is a condition of things that we may know not long, if we neglect the opportunity that is offered to us, if we neglect the door that is now opened to us. I declare that I cannot conceive a responsibility greater than that which falls upon this whole realm of England, when we know how great are our facilities, when we know how ample are our means, when we know almost to a certainty that if we will put forth our hands we cannot fail to pluck the fruit. And how is it that we hesitate, when we see all these things? How is it that we hesitate, when we see so many thousands of children rambling through the streets; when we know that they, poor little things, may be said to be panting for living invitation to the skies; when we know that if we will but gather them within the four walls of any wretched hut or stable, we may impart to them what is more valuable than all that palaces can confer, all that wealth can give, or all that learning can bestow? What so easy as our course! what so divine as our end! and what so true and certain as the result! And yet we stand still; and yet we hesitate to go forward; and yet we are looking right and left; and yet we doubt whether we will thrust our hands into our pockets, and pull out that which would cost us nothing to give, and the loss of which we should hardly

be aware of! It is strange to say, that at this time scarcely anything is required to put in operation these mighty principles, and to attain these great results, but the contributions of the money of the wealthy. Everything is prepared: all is at hand: all is laid before you. There cannot be a moment's doubt. Your agents are ready: your course is open to you: the end is in view. Everything is waiting. It requires but the word; it requires but the contributions of the wealthy; and I believe the most magnificent results would be achieved, and we should arrive at a most great and most glorious consummation. But there you see it is. There has been a great demand in the North, and the consequence is, that those who would have given to our charities have given to Lancashire and to Yorkshire. But why is it, when there is a particular demand, that this is the case? Is it necessary that you should then stint the other societies? Is it not rather a proof that there is an additional stress upon that which you have? and ought there not to be something like self-denial, something like self-sacrifice? But is it to be said, that each person will give just so much, and no more, and that if it be given in one channel it shall not be given in the other? In this way we might quench all the charities of London; in this way everything most necessary might fall; and if this unhappy destitution in Lancashire should be prolonged, we should end by seeing a greater and more terrible destitution in the South, and in the whole length and breadth of the metropolis. You have been delivered from a great hazard. I hope you will say very little about my friend Mr. Gent's statement as to the balance-sheet. If that balance-sheet be known in a certain high quarter, in all probability it may undergo an imposition, and be subjected to a tax. Say nothing about it. Give your money and hold your tongue, and tell Mr. Gent that he need not say more than he is absolutely required to say. It is a great thing to have the money, and it is a very great thing to say nothing about it. But now I hope that we shall all enter into the length and breadth of this great duty. We see before us what is the demand: let us address ourselves, according to the means that we have, to meet that demand. Do not let it be said at another anniversary, that those five-and-twenty thousand children are still clamouring for the bread of life, and that there is no one to feed them. Let it not be said at another anniversary that children have been turned away from the existing schools because there has been a defect of teachers to administer to them the tuition of the Gospel. Let it not be said that coldness is growing up among those schools that hitherto have borne so fair a name. You have achieved the greatest results that have ever yet been achieved over a mighty population. I put it to your honour, if not to your Christian principle, not to let such a cloud and such a disgrace come over your country and over your own operations. I do not ask that you should make great sacrifices; I do not ask that you should give that which would cut off from your own comforts, or deprive those who have a prior claim of those expenses and contributions that are their due: I only ask that every one should give of his abundance; that in enjoying his abundance he should know that there are hundreds and thousands who have not the millionth part of that which he consumes only upon his luxuries. In every instance bear that in mind; and according to your means, and according to your heart, and according to the cause that is before you, according to the hopes that you have, according to the blessings that God has given, according to the blessings that you hope he will give to you and yours, "eat the fat, and drink the sweet, and send portions to them for whom nothing is prepared."

The Bishop of Goulburn.—The resolution I am requested to move is to the following effect: "That the Report now submitted be received, and that the gentlemen whose names appear on the printed list do form the Committee and officers for the ensuing year." I find

that resolution is put differently in the printed papers in the room; for in the resolution, as I first read it, I found a very important word added: "That the Report now submitted be *thankfully* received." I do not know why we should be thankless, after such a Report as we have heard read. My own opinion, after hearing that Report, is, that there is much ground for real thankfulness and gratitude to Almighty God, for his continued blessing to this great movement in its varied operations. It is impossible, said the right rev. prelate, to follow out the details of that report, without seeing what an amazing amount of good had been wrought, under God's blessing. Six-and-twenty thousand persons had, it appeared, been rescued from vice and misery, and were now under religious instruction; and it was impossible to doubt that immense results for time and eternity would follow. When he considered what a number of excellent books were in circulation among the Ragged School children, he felt that they were likely to prove exceedingly useful. The 2,700 voluntary teachers formed a mighty army; and they must themselves derive great benefit from their labours; for they who watered others would doubtless be watered themselves. There was one portion of the work of the Union which he had long watched with special interest. As the secretary for the last twelve years of a society formed mainly for the spiritual benefit of the colonies, he had met with pleasing illustrations of the blessed effects of Ragged School operations. It would be quite sufficient if he mentioned one which had come immediately under his own observation and knowledge. A few years ago, said the Bishop, I was called to preach in a temporary church in London, for the incumbent, who was absent. When the service was over I remarked to one of the gentlemen, "I grieve to see no children attending Divine service this morning." "Oh, sir," was the answer, "there is no room for them in the temporary church: the congregation has grown. But we do not neglect the children: they are in the room adjoining." "And how are they taught during the service?" "A young man is there this morning who has great power and influence over the children. He rivets their attention, and talks to them about Jesus." I was thankful to hear this, and departed. On the following day the incumbent called on me, and said, "You made some inquiries about the children, and you heard something of a young man teaching them. I will briefly give you his history. We opened a Ragged School in our new district, and one evening a rough-looking animal, wonderfully clothed, opened the door. He seemed amazed to find a number of gentlemen and boys assembled together, and he called out, 'What are you doing here?' The gentlemen said, 'We are teaching these young men to read and write, and something for the good of their souls: would you like to come in and learn?' 'Yes, sir,' he said; and in he came, in his rags. He proved to be intelligent and quick, and he soon learned his alphabet. He presently began to appear in better garments, and became a regular attendant at the Ragged School." Within three or four months he attended the confirmation class. He then became a Sunday School teacher; and I went to preach there about the time he was teaching in the school, and it was then his turn to take charge of the children during Divine service; and the clergyman said, "He is just the person for a Colonial and Continental society to take up, and train, that he may become a teacher in the colonies. I requested an interview. I was struck with the appearance and intelligence of the young man. Our committee at once accepted him, and sent him to one of our admirable training-schools in London; and when two colonial bishops were about to take their departure, one of them inquired where he could find a model schoolmaster. He wanted one with such and such qualifications, and he heard that at such a training-school there was just the young man. Nobody had ever entered it with more power over the children, nobody who was more capable of

riveting the attention of the whole gallery while he was giving them a Bible lesson. The worthy bishop said, "That is the man for me." It was agreed that he was suitable for him, and our committee surrendered him, and he was taken by this admirable bishop—for he is one of our best colonial bishops—to the colony of Australia, to which I am going myself. After the voyage this young man wrote to me a letter of thanks for the services of our society; and his account of the voyage is to this effect:—

"Although the majority of the emigrants on board, 179 of them, were Roman Catholics and infidels, thoughtless and careless about their souls, I am happy to say by a little persuasion I got many of them to attend Divine service on Sunday. I held school daily for 75 days, having a daily attendance of 29 females, 9 children under 14 years of age, and 6 married men. All of them attended school very regularly, and to all appearance seemed very thankful for the instruction given to them. I held Divine service twice on Sunday during the fine weather, and once during the rough, at the same time not neglecting to read one of those sermons that you supplied me with in the evening. The hymn-books you gave me proved very useful indeed. Had it not been for them I do not know what we should have done on Sundays; but having been well furnished with these hymn-books, and with sermons of all descriptions, and having two seamen on board who played the accordion well, I must say our services became a pleasure to the people and not a task."

The Ragged School Union produced for that voyage the services of that young man, and for the colony one of the most admirable teachers that ever entered it; and I, in the name of our Colonial and Continental Church Society, and in the name of the settlers in the colonies, have to thank you for the gift of such a young man for the cause of Christ and the benefit of our fellow-men. His lordship also mentioned another instance, in which a youth was sent to Canada as a teacher, who saw so much of the evils of intemperance there, as he had also done at home, that he not only resolved to abstain from intoxicating liquors himself, but in writing to his mother said, "Dear mother, when you pass the corner, look the other way, and don't go near the gin-palace door.' The design of the institution, his lordship remarked, was a blessed one, and entitled it to more liberal support than it received. It was a grievous thing to think that there were five-and-twenty thousand children still left uncared for. Many of them would probably have to be brought before Judge Payne in his judicial capacity; but it would be much better, and more agreeable to the feelings of the Judge himself, that they should turn out like the two lads already referred to, than be taken from jail to jail, and come to an ignominious end, a burden upon the country, and a disgrace to their parents and to a Christian land. It was indeed wonderful how much had been done in a short time; and although difficulties seemed to arise, they were our greatest blessings, for they prevented our leaning too much upon ourselves, and led us to look above for a blessing; and as for teachers and funds being wanted, he trusted there were fifty present who were willing to come forward to meet the demands.

The Rev. F. Tucker.—My dear friends,—The Bishop of Goulburn moves this resolution, a Baptist minister seconds it. That is the Ragged School Union all over. But I must acknowledge I am somewhat out of my place this evening. I am merely a stop-gap, merely a make-shift; and you know how little is to be expected from such unpromising characters. The place I occupy would have been occupied by my dear friend and brother, the Rev. Mr. Graham, of Craven Chapel, a name dear to all friends of Ragged Schools; and I very much regret that it is loss of health, which I pray God may be merely temporary, that prevents his appearance in this hall this evening. But when, at the close of last week, the Secretary of your

society asked me to take his place, I really did not "hum" or "haw," my lord; I really could not for a moment refuse an invitation from the Ragged School Union. I feel, my lord, it is little I can do for this noble institution, which in your presence I have so often professed warmly to love. I cannot go and teach in your schools. I cannot often even visit the schools where others teach. The least I can do is to come to meetings like the present; and if any words of mine can cheer the labourers on, God forbid that those words should be withheld. I have been reading lately a description of an Oxford boat-race. The hard workers, as you know, my lord, are in the boats: there are the bending backs and the straining muscles. But I am told that the banks of the river are generally lined with eager spectators, who cheer the oarsmen on; and one cries, "Well done, Exeter!" and another cries, "Bravo, St. John's!" I feel this evening as if I were one of the spectators on the bank of a great river; and here are the oarsmen—this noble body now thronging this hall; and I feel inclined this evening to say, "Well done, Field Lane! Bravo, Lamb and Flag! With a will, Holloway! Keep her up, One Tun!" This is the least one can do on an occasion like the present; and I seem to see the gallant fleet sweep by me; and all I can wish is the Irishman's wish, that they may all get first, and all obtain the prize. My lord, I love and honour the Ragged School Union, because you are grappling with one of the most tremendous difficulties that ever oppressed a nation. It is not for me to say what the 2,700 voluntary teachers—blessed be God for that noble army—could tell me so much better than I can tell them, what is the state of the masses of the population in this great city. It is not for me to portray to you the social and moral maladies that fester and rankle in the hundreds of thousands that are around us. Why, my lord, the political theorist looks on, and is ready to despair. He says, Nations must have their rise and fall: "we ripe and ripe, and then we rot and rot." And the religious theorist sometimes, too, I am sorry to say, looks on and despairs also, folds his arms in satisfaction that he is travelling to heaven, and says, "These people that know not the law are accursed." My lord, that is not *your* spirit; that is not the spirit of the Ragged School Union. It is not for you to look on bleeding, plundered, wounded humanity, lying there by the road, and to pass by on the other side. It is not for you to say, "That case is so hopeless, the man must bleed to death, and there is no help for it." Nay, you will search among your stores, whether you have not some wine and oil to pour into that wounded side; and you will search, too—and I hope to-night there will be a good search in your purses—for the "two pence" that are needful to provide accommodation for that outcast one. Talk of the difficulty of the work, my lord? Talk of its being impossible? Difficult? Impossible? I dare say my honoured friend Mr. Payne will correct me if I am wrong when I say that there was a Frenchman just took his pen and struck those two words out of the dictionary. He said they had no business to be there; they had no business to be in any language spoken under heaven. I do not know, my lord, whether I should do that. I think I would rather put the words in the dictionary, and then attach an Englishman's meaning to them: "*Difficulty*, something to be overcome; *a thing impossible*, a thing that must be done." And that I take to be not merely the Anglo-Saxon meaning of the words, but the Christian meaning too. "I can do *all* things through Christ that strengtheneth me." I am the servant of an almighty God: is there anything too hard for him? Nay, with him nothing is impossible. I love the Ragged School Union, not merely because you grapple with this difficulty, but you do it in so wise and common-sense a way. You try to nip the evil in the bud. You try to crush the oak in the acorn. I am not here to-night to speak a word against those who

attack the full-grown and full-blown developments of the evil. Not a word, my lord, against city missions, against midnight missions, against Bible-women, against preaching in the theatres of London. Ah! if I were to condemn those who preach in the theatres, I am a very great criminal myself. You will remember, my lord, when we agitated the question whether we *should* employ these large edifices for such a purpose, we appointed a sub-committee to see if we could find capacious and commodious buildings that were not theatres. Back came the sub-committee and said, "We cannot find them." Then, said I, for one, to a brother, "I will go to the theatre;" another cried, "And I will go to the theatre;" a third cried, "And I will go to the theatre;" and in came Lord Shaftesbury and said, "And I will go with you." In candour let me say, that at first, if you could have found an Exeter Hall or a St. James's Hall in the eastern part of London, or the north-east, or thereabouts, I should have preferred it; but now, my lord, if you were to put down an Exeter Hall by the side of the Victoria Theatre, Lambeth, or a St. James's Hall by the side of the Pavilion Theatre, Whitechapel, I am so utterly depraved that I would rather go to the theatres than I would go to the halls; and simply for this reason: I feel that in these theatres I get down to a lower stratum of the people than I could ever have reached in any other kind of building. We, however, in work like that, are trying to pull down a giant upas-tree. We throw a rope over this branch, and throw a rope over that, and try to throw a rope over every one; and we haul, and haul; but the work will not be done to-day or to-morrow. Your Ragged School Union comes and plucks up the saplings, and then, in the place of those upas saplings, plants some good plant of renown. And thus, my friends, the work is done. "Instead of the thorn there comes up the fir-tree; instead of the briar there comes up the myrtle-tree; and it shall be to the Lord for a name, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off." I take it, my lord, that this is common-sense; and common-sense is always the best wisdom all the world over. If, my friends, a neighbourhood be overrun with cats, one of the very best things you can do is to drown all the kittens of the neighbourhood; and so if you wish to cure the evil in the adult population of London, you must attack the evil in the children of your Ragged Schools. Once more, my lord, I love this Union because of the good you are doing on the way. Tell me of the good done to the scholars, and I will tell you of the good done to the teachers. Why, who can think of these 2,700 unpaid teachers, these young men and young women of London, engaged in such healthy work as this, without perceiving that there will be a grand and glorious development of their moral and spiritual nature, such as otherwise they had never known? Mr. Locke spoke of "the merry month of May." My lord, did you ever see such a merry meeting as this which you addressed this evening? Of all the workers (I have said this over and over again in your absence, and therefore I need not scruple to say it in your presence)—of all the workers of every kind, I never saw such a cheery, joyous band of workers as our male and female teachers in the Ragged Schools. And now, my lord, I congratulate you. I congratulate this Union. Only think of the good you have done already. Often I remember, my lord, and I have often taken the liberty to repeat, an anecdote which I heard from your own lips about that worthy female who went to Adelaide, but sent a letter to you before she went, signing herself, "Your affectionate friend, Charlotte." She was one whom his lordship had picked up out of the mire of society, and had filtered through a Ragged School, and had then drafted off to that distant colony; and I cannot doubt that she meant what she said when she signed herself, "Your affectionate friend, Charlotte." I am very much afraid, my lord, that I have been guilty now and then, in some little

correspondence I have had with your lordship, of a similar breach of etiquette; and really, my friends, I find it very difficult to finish a letter to my Lord Shaftesbury, with the words, "Your lordship's most dutiful and humble servant." Talk of the good you have done! I do not know a soil on earth more promising than that on which you are working, brethren. It is like the soil that some felicitous orator described in these words: "Only tickle it with a hoe, and it will laugh with a harvest." Well, here is a letter from Nova Scotia, come this afternoon. It is dated from Milton, Queen's County, and is addressed to the teacher of one of your schools:—

"Dear sir,—It is with great pleasure I now write to you. I have long wanted to write to you; so I have made up my mind to write this evening. Dear sir, I feel very happy at this moment. I have an excellent situation: such kind people. I am as happy as I should wish to be. My master and mistress are religious people. I may say with the poet,—

> "For what the Lord has done for me,
> For boundless love so rich and free,
> For all his mercy which is past,
> I'll praise him whilst my life shall last."

Dear sir, as soon as we landed at Halifax I asked my Father in heaven to guide my feet to some place where I could have the privilege of the means of grace; and, bless his name, he answered my prayer. I was never better off in my life. I can go three times in the week, and three to service and once to school on the Sunday. Oh how I love the Sabbath School! I am never so happy as when I am in the house of God, and in company with his people." The letter ends thus: "Dear sir, I have not forgot the happy time I used to spend with you in Sunday School; how you used to explain the word of God to us, and try to make us good boys! May that God, who is the rewarder of all such, bless you, for Jesus' sake! Amen. I have much more to say, but my paper will hold no more. Please to give my love to your class, and tell them to be good boys, and God will bless them. Give my best love to all at Great Queen Street Home, and accept the same yourself." This lad came to London utterly destitute, found his way to St. Giles's Home, and here is the result. Why, you "tickled the soil with a hoe," and it is "laughing with a harvest"! And then, oh think of the good your society is yet to do! But lately I lost from my own congregation a respected friend, who only twenty-seven years ago drove the first stake into the soil where now stands the city of Melbourne, with its 150,000 or 200,000 inhabitants. He told me, only a few weeks before he died, how their little schooner rounded the Indented Heads, and stood into Port Philip Bay. They landed where now is the fashionable suburb of St. Kilda, where most likely Lord Shaftesbury would have a house if the colony were fortunate enough to get his lordship there; and then they looked across from St. Kilda to a beautiful strip of parky land, with fine trees and delicious grass. "There," they said, "that is the place for our sheep farming." Now the sheep are all gone, my friends, from that part of the bay; but there stands that majestic city, with its nearly 200,000 inhabitants. And so the work is going on. Mr. Locke insisted the other day that I should say one word to-night which I said here a few days ago; and it is something to this effect. When speaking of this noble band of Ragged School teachers, and the healthy character of their work, I might have added, These are the persons who are not likely to give up their time and minds to poor, petty, puerile speculations in religion. *These* are the people that are attending to the practical part; and "if a man will *do* his will, he shall know of the doctrine whether it be of God." These Ragged School teachers would be always willing to listen to the Bishop of Goulburn: they would not be as willing to listen to his right reverend brother of Natal. My friends, pity me to-night; have pity upon me! I never had the advantage of a *Zulu* education; and therefore it comes to pass, perhaps, that I am such a foolish,

ignorant man that I believe my Bible. I believe all that "Moses, in the law, and the prophets, did write." I believe that Noah "built an ark unto the saving of his house;" I believe that the sun stood still in Gibeon, and the moon o'er the valley of Ajalon; and I can believe still more, that Balaam's ass opened its mouth and spoke, for surely some creatures of hardly higher rationality have followed his example. What! my dear Lord Shaftesbury, this work going to lag? Impossible! Any one here present going to withhold his hand? Impossible! If my friend Judge Payne will forgive me, I will just utter a rhyme or two and conclude. [Mr. Payne intimated his forgiveness.] I have the consent of the Poet Laureate of the Union.

A tear-drop of the morning
Hung on a blade of grass;
A simple bead of water:
A thousand you might pass.
But when the slanting sunbeam
Came down in morning pride,
Then you might see my water-drop
Transfigured, glorified.

I looked: it shone—a diamond,
Bright, sparkling, clear, and keen.
I looked again: an emerald
Hung, pure in vivid green.
Again it gleamed out golden,
A topaz to the view;
Then flamed a ruby, fiery red;
Then sapphire, summer blue.

I saw thus how a water-drop
Is kin to all things fair;
Can give as bright and beauteous hues
As arching rainbows wear;
Can shine with light as radiant,
And show as varied gem
As holy city, fresh from glory,
The New Jerusalem.

And I thought how many an action,
Of simplest, lowliest guise,
May yet beneath the beam of heaven
Shine lovely in all eyes;
May show such beauteous motive
As angels will applaud:
Truth, honour, virtue, justice,
Love of men and God.

Two mites, that make a farthing,
Ensured the widow's fame.
A single cup of water
Can buy a deathless name.

The humblest work for Jesus—
The gentle word or look,
The soothing sigh, the cheering smile—
Is written in his book.

Fear not, then, lowly Christian:
Though deep in shade thou dwell,
Thy Lord will mark thy faithfulness,
He will requite thee well.
The dew that waits the dawning
Shall glitter in the ray,
And bright shall shine thy jewell'd-crown
When Christ shall bring the day!

The Rev. ARTHUR MURSELL, in supporting the resolution, said, that although it was only five days since he stood by the side of his young wife's grave, he could not allow that event to prevent him from attending there to express his love for the Ragged School Union; and if he were unable to speak with his usual power, he would throw himself on the indulgence of the meeting. No one was more opposed than himself to man-worship; but there were two men whom he confessed he was disposed to worship: Charles Dickens, on account of his efforts in behalf of the neglected classes, and Lord Palmerston; and he was disposed to admit into his human trinity a relative of that illustrious minister, the Earl of Shaftesbury. He traced his interest in Ragged Schools to a poem of Adelaide Ann Procter, which he repeated, and to some efforts he had been led to make to improve a gang of thieves and the lowest characters, and in which he had felt it necessary to accommodate himself to some extent to their habits; on one occasion joining in a dance with them at a public-house; and he wished other gentlemen would do the same thing. [These statements were received with marked disapprobation from many gentlemen on the platform, as well as by the meeting generally; and loud cries of "No, no," followed the statement that, in order to establish his footing, he felt it to be necessary to accommodate himself to the habits of these thieves.]

The noble CHAIRMAN then rose and said, he thought it would be best for the speaker to confine himself to the question before the meeting, namely, the work of Ragged Schools. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. MURSELL said the result of his efforts was, that a Ragged School which before contained only fifty or sixty, was now crowded to excess. He was exceedingly sorry, however, if he had uttered anything which at all conflicted with the temper or feeling of the meeting; and if he had said or done anything unwise, it was only in his zeal to get at the practical object he had in view. We *are* promised, said the speaker, that sooner or later there shall a millennium com about; but we must not wait about for that. We must not fold our arms, and be inactive; and I am delighted to hear the noble progress which this practical work has made. However, we can be opening the windows, as it were, for the pouring in of the light of that millennial day, the day when all these glorious achievements shall be consummated; when peace on earth and good-will to man shall be disseminated throughout the length and breadth of the globe; when this old earth of ours, grown green and gladsome with Heaven's selectest glory, mantling in silver halos round her myriad hills, and the beauty of the feet of those who bring glad tidings and publish peace making fair her thousand mountain-tops, shall shake herself from the dust which stifles her, shall loosen herself from the iron bands of her neck, shall put on her beautiful garments, shall dash off her tears, clear up her frowns, and like a happy mother greeting the first smile of the infant with which she has been travailing in pain, shall forget the sorrow of the night in the joy that cometh with the morning.

The resolution was put to the meeting, and carried unanimously. The collection was then made.

The Rev. J. RICHARDSON.—My lord, and Christian friends,—I have been trying to imagine to-night why a country clergyman should be asked to speak at Exeter Hall, at a meeting of the Ragged Union of London; and one answer that I have been giving to my own thoughts has been this: that we from the country, I am afraid, send up a great quantity of bad blood to London, and that we like it should come over the lungs, so to speak, of your Ragged Schools, that there it may be oxigenized afresh, and driven in a purer form through the great body politic than that in which we sent it to you. That is one reason. Another reason is this: that I find that the circulation at the extremities of the body is apt to get somewhat languid, and that it is good for us from the country to come up to the May Meetings, in order to get a little stimulus, to go to our work with all the better spirit, all the fuller hope, and, I trust I may say, all the simpler faith in the great God that has so markedly blessed you. I am here, however, to-night, because in God's good providence it has happened that in former years I had to take part in a very large Ragged School; and, singularly enough, that Ragged School—a very large one, of 530 ragged children—happened to be in the very town to which the last speaker has been calling our attention; and in my own plain way of looking at it, I am thankful to say that that large school was gathered together without any of the novel contrivances to which reference has been made to-night. It was in connection with this Ragged School that a circumstance occurred that has always given an interest to this movement in my own mind. I went one Sunday evening into my Ragged School, and a wonderful sight met my eye. There was a lad of about some twelve years of age, dressed in a remarkable costume. He had no shoes, he had no stockings, he had no trousers, he had no shirt, he had no hat: all his clothing was a coat, a soldier's old red coat. All the buttons had been cut off; but by a skilful arrangement of string it had entirely furnished the lad with a very fair and decent habiliment. Our attention was drawn to him because of his costume; and a kind friend was found to give him a better suit. The suit to which he was afterwards introduced was one of salmon-coloured corduroy, trousers and coat to match; and on the following Sunday, to my great delight, I found the boy, not

at the Ragged Night School, but at the day school, into which these ragged children did not come; and the twinkle in that boy's eye told me at once what he meant me to understand, namely, that the fact of having given him decent clothing had raised him in his own self-respect, and that he was now aiming at being something higher and better than he ever hoped to become while he was in the miserable garments in which we found him. We inquired where he lived, and I myself visited the home. He was the eldest child but one of a family of five, that were the children of a blind widow, living in a damp cellar. We found employment for this lad. He first got eighteen pence a week, then half a crown, and at last four and sixpence; and when he received this four and sixpence he went home to his mother, and he said to her, "Mother, I don't think it right that a young man earning four and sixpence a week should live in a cellar." His mother agreed that that was not the thing; and when the room above the cellar became vacant, the family literally rose in the world, and came upon the first floor. I visited this family some short time after, and the mother said to me, "Sir, do you know that since I have come out of the cellar I have been able to see on which side of the room the window is?" I brought in a Christian friend, a medical man. He took the case in hand, and, to make a long story short, it is interesting to my mind, and it will be to yours, to know that by the blessing of God that the once blind widow was restored to the perfect use of her eyesight, and when I left the neighbourhood was earning a very honourable and honest livelihood for her family. And the blessing was not simply here; for although I cannot tell you anything as to the spiritual good of the boy, I can tell you, that to the sister older than himself, whose constitution had been undermined by the sad home she had lived in too long, God the Holy Ghost spake with his own mighty power, and revealed to that poor dark soul the Lord Jesus Christ as her personal precious Saviour, and she died, and passed from the cellar—for she died there—I believe into the mansion that had been prepared for her in the heaven above. Now these are the things that to my mind give such a pathos to the work in which it is your privilege to engage. I have also another idea upon this matter. I believe, my lord, that the characteristic feature of this day is preaching the Gospel in the regions beyond; it is bringing the glad tidings of salvation to parties and people that have hitherto not known them. I see in the noble order to which your lordship belongs how the light of Divine truth by God's grace is penetrating; and I find that in the very darkest and dreariest abodes of wretchedness in a metropolis like this, God has seals to prove that the stamp of his own power has been there. It is on this account, I think, we have so much reason to feel thankful that a work like this has been carried on. My dear friends, did it ever occur to you to think how London looks from the gutter? I think it is high time that London should see what is *in* that gutter. There are some fearful sights, I believe, still not sufficiently recognised there. I was trying to think how London looks from the gutter; what a poor ragged child thinks of this great metropolis. I thought that probably he looked at its charity as represented by the workhouse, and its law as represented by the policeman, and its love, it may be, by some stray copper that he may pick up from day to day. Now we want to bring him out of the street into the Ragged School, and show him the *Christians* of this great metropolis, and teach him that there are to be found those whom God has blessed, and who are anxious to bless him too. In this way, then, the work is to my mind a very valuable work. But I think we must never forget that it is a very necessary work. There is a gentleman at Ipswich, a Mr. Ransome, who appeared not long ago at the meeting of the British Association in Cambridge, to exhibit what he had discovered as a valu-

able thing with regard to stone. He told the story somewhat in this way. He took a cylinder of compressed sand—a roll of sand that he had pressed so that it would adhere slightly together—and he had two vessels on the table before him: one contained water, and the other contained the mixture which he claimed as representing his invention. He put one end of the cylinder into the vessel of water, and he said, "You perceive that the action of the water upon this cylinder of sand is, that it causes the sand particles to separate each from the other, and all falls to the bottom, very weak, and seemingly without strength. Now," he said, "I dip the other end of this cylinder into the mixture, and there I find that the mixture is taken up amongst the sand, that it makes it all hard like stone, that it binds each particle of sand to the other particle, and that the effect of this is a strong, solid, and substantial piece of useful stone." So I have thought sometimes with regard to work like this. I believe that mere human expediencies—civilization simply—are no more than that water acting upon the sand; but I believe that that which God has given, that mysterious thing that we call the Gospel, in that marvellous way which Divine grace alone can cause to influence human hearts, binds man to man, strengthens and consolidates the family, the nation, the entire body of Christ's believing people; and then men are fit to bear the blast, and the wear and tear, and the friction of the world in which they are required to live. It is on this account, therefore, again that I hail this work, and regard it as a great privilege to be permitted to have anything to do with it. But, my dear friends, I am strongly of this opinion, that if you are ever to have any blessing upon your work, you must give special honour to God the Holy Ghost. One great secret why so many schemes have failed has, to my mind, been just this, that men have thought that activity, zeal, perseverance, liberality, painstaking, were all the things necessary to ensure success. My dear friends, did you ever think of this matter? It is very pleasing to my mind to discover analogies between things material and things spiritual. Did you ever think of what happens in a single drop of water, to which we have had our attention called in those beautifully poetic lines that our friend Mr. Tucker has given us? The philosopher tells us that you can take that drop of water, and that you can resolve it into its elements, and that those elements will be found to consist of two gases mixed together in definite well-known proportions. Now, I say, take those gases in the same proportions, and try to put them together, and see if you can form again the drop of water. You will find that there is one great thing that still is required, and that you cannot give. Pass an electric spark amongst those gases that you have thus mixed together, and immediately there will be trickling down the drops of water that you sought. So I believe you may analyze the Christian mind and heart, and say a Ragged School boy ought to have so much of penitence, so much of faith, so much of love, so much of holiness. You cannot make those things practical in that child's heart. But let the electric spark of God the Holy Ghost pass through, and soon there will trickle down the tear of real penitence. Then, my dear friends, if this be the case, and the matter be thus important to us all, pray bear with me while I give you two pieces of advice. I would say with regard to this work what has been said in the Report forwarded to me: Keep to the gutter: concentrate your efforts on this particular class. And I would say in dealing with them, Keep to the Gospel. I know no other agency that can touch the human heart, that can benefit man, in his reality benefit him, except that Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ; and just as, when life is given to the seemingly dead seed, you will find that the appearance of life casts off all the dead sheathing that had hitherto shut it in, so, when God the Holy Ghost quickens the seed of Divine life in the

soul of a ragged boy, you will find that all those dark and disagreeable habits and principles that he had before will fall off from him, and he will rise to the beauty of the new creation in Christ Jesus. Let these, then, be the great principles that guide us in the work. It is a work that still needs to be done. I was thinking about this matter at my home this morning, and these thoughts occurred. We are required to engage in this work from two causes: the one is, because *so many things change;* and the other is, because *so many things do not change.* I was thinking, all these ragged children change. They are passing from out of our hands; some dying and going into the eternal condition, and others growing up, by-and-by, it may be, to spurn our offered gift. And *we* are changing too. The hand that now may work may to-morrow be able to work no more. But, my dear friends, there are other things that do not change. The devil does not change; sin does not change; *men* do not change: for, spite of all the ideas of modern enlightenment, spite of all these new notions, that if you can only go deep enough into the worst man's heart you will find some good in it, and if you can only dig skilfully enough into the midst of the most dark system you will find some truth in it—spite of all those modern and foolish notions—to my mind, there is this ever-prominent truth: man by nature does not change. And then the Gospel does not change, and God does not change, the covenant does not change, the promise does not change, and heaven does not change. And because of all these things, my dear friends, I say, put your shoulders to this wheel, and go upon your knees in earnest prayer to God for his blessing; and though you may never see a result, a result will come, and God will be blessed in it. I have great pleasure in moving the second resolution.

The Rev. BENJAMIN FIELD, in seconding the resolution, referred to the various benevolent societies now in existence, and contrasted in that respect the present generation with the past, with regard more especially to the establishment of Ragged Schools and similar institutions for the benefit of the neglected poor. When public attention was first called to Ragged Schools, he said, there was a great difficulty in getting Christians to take part in such a work; but when a peer of the realm left his home to share in it, many others began to think of their duty in the matter; and the duty of trying to raise these poor children was now universally admitted. It was a dreadful thing to see a full-grown man indulging habitually in vicious practices; but the case of children growing up amid vice was still more dreadful. That singular man, the late Rev. Joseph Wolff, in the course of his travels, was once heard exclaiming in sleep, as he lay on the ground, "Oh, my countrymen! they perish! Good God, they perish!" Those words forcibly applied to the class whom the Union aimed to benefit. Since this Ragged School movement began, how many of these children had lived, and sinned, and died! Thank God for Ragged Schools! Here was the life-boat. God speed the sailors, and grant them abundant success! There were now lips, long used to cursing, singing the songs of Zion. The other day, for example, he heard a little boy in Clerkenwell singing, as he went along, "I love Jesus; yes, I do." As he listened, he thought that there perhaps was a heart in which was implanted the love of Jesus; but if not, was it nothing that such words were fixed in the child's memory? A boy might go very far in vice, and at some future time, in sorrow or sickness, would spring up some precious truth which had long been hidden in his inner life. The speaker concluded with an earnest appeal for increased effort in behalf of the Union.

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ESTABLISHED FOR THE SUPPORT OF

FREE SCHOOLS FOR THE DESTITUTE POOR.

OFFICE—1, EXETER HALL.

PRESIDENT.—THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF SHAFTESBURY.

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HON. SEC.—MR. W. LOCKE. HON. SOLICITOR.—E. JENNINGS, Esq.

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BANKERS.—MESSRS. BARCLAY, BEVAN, & CO., 54, Lombard Street.

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General Fund.

	£	s.	d.
Anderdon, J. H., Esq.	10	0	0
Anderson, George, Esq.	1	1	0
Arpthorpe, Mr.	0	5	0
Avery, Miss	0	5	0
Barham, Mr.	0	5	0
Barnard, J., Esq.	1	1	0
Barnwell, T. L., Esq.	0	5	0
Boobbyer, Mrs., coll. by	6	16	0
Browne, R. G. M., Esq.	1	0	0
Burrowes, E. H., Esq.	0	10	6
Cockerell, Mrs.	0	10	0
Cockerell, Miss S., Box	1	18	2
Cropper, Mrs.	0	10	0
Crosse, R. J., Esq.	2	2	0
Drewett, Miss	0	10	0
Drinkwater, Miss	0	5	0
Ellis, John, Esq.	2	2	0
Evans, Mrs. H.	1	1	0
Everett, Mr.	0	10	0
Family Thank-offering for a good Mother, on her 84th birthday	5	0	0
Field, Major J.	2	0	0
Field, J. E., Esq.	2	2	0
Foster, John, Esq.	2	0	0
Fowler, J. R., Esq.	1	0	0
Geddes, Miss	0	10	0
Ditto, coll. by	0	4	6
Gibbs, Miss Anne	0	5	0
Glover, John, Esq.	0	10	6
Goddard, Mrs.	0	10	0
Gulliford, Miss	0	14	6
Hall, A., Esq.	2	0	0
Hewitson, W. C., Esq.	25	0	0
Holwell, Miss, coll. by—			
Ayton, Miss	0	2	0
Andrews, Miss	0	3	6
B. S.	0	2	0
Holwell, Mr.	1	1	0
Holwell, Mrs.	0	5	0
Holwell, Miss	0	5	0
Southgate, J., Esq.	1	1	0
Southgate, Mrs.	1	1	0
W. K.	0	2	6
Hooley, Miss S.	2	1	1
Jeffreys, H., Esq.	1	1	0
Jeffreys, J. T., Esq.	1	1	0
Knight, Mrs. J.	0	10	0
Lacy, A.	2	0	0
Lake, Legacy of the late Geo., Esq.	90	0	0
Lighthart, Mrs., The late	50	0	0
Llewellyn, Mrs.	1	1	0
Locke, Mr. W., Box	0	15	0
Lockton, Mrs.	0	10	0
Lucey, Joseph, Esq.	5	5	0
Macleane, Mrs.	1	1	0
Middleton, W., Esq.	1	1	0
Payne, Miss H.	0	10	0
Pauley, Col.	2	0	0
Potter, E., Esq.	10	0	0
Reade, Mrs.	0	10	0
Roberts, Hy., Esq.	0	10	0
Roberts, Miss	1	0	0
R. R.	5	0	0
Rucker, Mrs.	1	1	0
Rycroft, Sir R., Bart.	20	0	0
Sargent, Mrs.	1	0	0
Sapte, Mrs.	1	1	0
Sewell, Miss, coll. by	0	9	0
Sims, J., Esq.	1	1	0
Smithett, Mr. & Mrs.	1	1	0
Stuart, Mrs.	0	5	0
Thank-offering from India	1	0	0
Thatcher, Mr.	1	1	0
Thompson, Mrs. M.	0	10	6
Thorne, J. M., Esq.	2	2	0
Tildesley, E., Esq.	1	1	0
T. W.	0	16	6
Vivian, Mrs.	1	0	0
Wardell, Rev. J. D.	1	0	0
Watson, Mrs.	1	1	0
Watson, Rev. W.	0	10	0
Watson, Mrs.	0	10	0
Waugh, Miss	1	1	0
Webb, Miss	3	0	0
Whitaker, Mrs.	1	0	0
Wilkie, Rev. J.	5	5	0
Wood, Rev. L. & Mrs.	2	2	0

School Fund, &c.

	£	s.	d.
Wilkie, Rev. J.			

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General Fund.

	£	s.	d.
Anderdon, J. H., Esq.	10	0	0
Anderson, George, Esq.	1	1	0
Arpthorpe, Mr.	0	5	0
Avery, Miss	0	5	0
Barham, Mr.	0	5	0
Barnard, J., Esq.	1	1	0
Barnwell, T. L., Esq.	0	5	0
Boobbyer, Mrs., coll. by	6	10	0
Browne, R. G. M., Esq.	1	0	0
Burrowes, E. H., Esq.	0	10	6
Cockerell, Mrs.	0	10	0
Cockerell, Miss S., Box.	1	18	2
Cropper, Mrs.	0	10	0
Crosse, R. J., Esq.	3	3	0
Drewett, Miss	0	10	0
Drinkwater, Miss	0	5	0
Ellis, John, Esq.	2	2	0
Evans, Mrs. H.	1	1	0
Everett, Mr.	0	10	0
Family Thank-offering for a good Mother, on her 84th birthday	5	0	0
Field, Major J.	2	0	0
Field, J. R., Esq.	2	2	0
Foster, John, Esq.	2	0	0
Fowler, J. R., Esq.	1	0	0
Geddes, Miss	0	10	0
Ditto, coll. by	0	4	6
Gibbs, Mrs. John	0	5	0
Glover, John, Esq.	0	10	6
Goddard, Mrs.	0	10	0
Gulliford, Miss	0	14	6
Hall, A., Esq.	2	0	0
Hewitson, W. C., Esq.	25	0	0
Holwell, Miss, coll. by—			
Aylen, Miss	0	2	0
Andrews, Miss	0	3	6
B. S.	0	2	0
Holwell, Mr.	1	1	0
Holwell, Mrs.	0	5	0
Holwell, Miss	0	5	0
Southgate, J., Esq.	1	1	0
Southgate, Mrs.	1	1	0
W. R.	0	2	6
Hopley, Miss S.	3	1	1
Jeffriess, H., Esq.	1	1	0
Jeffriess, J. T., Esq.	1	1	0
Knight, Mrs. J.	0	10	0
Lady, A	2	0	0
Lake, Legacy of the late Geo., Esq.	90	0	0
Lightfoot, Mrs, The late	50	0	0
Llewellyn, Mrs.	1	1	0
Locke, Mr. W., Box	0	15	0
Lockton, Mrs.	0	10	0
Lucey, Joseph, Esq.	5	5	0
Macdona, Mrs.	1	1	0
Middleton, W., Esq.	1	1	0
Payne, Miss H.	0	10	0
Penley, Col.	2	0	0
Potter, E., Esq.	10	0	0
Reade, Mrs.	0	10	0
Roberts, Hy., Esq.	0	10	0
Roberts, Miss	1	0	0
R. R. B.	5	0	0
Rusher, Mrs.	1	1	0
Rycroft, Sir R., Bart.	30	0	0
Sargent, Mrs.	1	0	0
Sapte, Mrs.	1	1	0
Silver, Miss, coll. by	0	9	0
Sims, J., Esq.	1	1	0
Snashall, Mr. & Mrs.	1	1	0
Stunt, Mrs.	0	5	0
Thank-offering from India	1	0	0
Thatcher, Mr.	1	1	0
Thompson, Mrs. M.	0	10	6
Thorne, J. M., Esq.	2	2	0
Tildesley, E., Esq.	1	1	0
T. W.	0	10	6
Viewes, Mr.	1	0	0
Wastell, Rev. J. D.	1	0	0
Wathen, Mrs.	1	1	0
Watson, Rev. W.	0	10	0
Watson, Mrs.	0	10	0
Waugh, Miss	1	1	0
Webb, Miss	3	0	0
Wigfield, Mrs.	1	0	0
Wilkie, Rev. J.	5	5	0
Wood, Rev. A. & Mrs.	2	2	0

School Fund, &c.

	£	s.	d.
Excursion Fund.			
Barnwell, F. L., Esq.	1	0	0
Rag Brigade.			
Foster, J. F., Esq.	5	0	0
Bacon Street.			
Family Thank-offering for a good Mother, on her 84th birthday	5	0	0
Burton Street.			
Family Thank-offering for a good Mother, on her 84th birthday	5	0	0
Little Saffron Hill.			
Wilkie, Rev. J.	1	1	0
St. Giles's.			
Wilkie, Rev. J.	2	2	0
Spicer Street.			
Family Thank-offering for a good Mother, on her 84th birthday	5	0	0

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